

The Watchman and Southron.

Consolidated Aug. 9, 1881.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou aim'st at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERN, Established June 1, 1876.

SUMTER, S. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1916.

Vol. XLIII. No. 15.

BOSES FARMES TO HEAR LEVER

E. W. DABBS SAYS CONGRESSMAN SHOULD HAVE IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR FARMERS.

Meeting to be held in Court House at Noon on Monday, October 9th, should be one of great import to people of County—Recent Legislation for Benefit of Rural Districts to be discussed.

Salem, Black River, Oct. 4.—Co-operative marketing and the meeting on October 9th at noon, when the farmers of Lee, Sumter and Clarendon will have an opportunity to hear Hon. A. F. Lever discuss co-operative marketing, and the national legislation that has been enacted to promote better marketing.

Mr. Lever by length of service and constant work for bettering agricultural conditions has risen to the important post of chairman of the committee on agriculture of the national house of representatives. If any man in the whole country can give us farmers and business men too, information on farm topics and the legislation that has been passed, and that is proposed, to put the farmers on a business footing with the rest of the industries of the country Mr. Lever is that man. The court house should be full to overflowing next Monday to hear what he has to say. Not only the farmers of the three counties should be there, but the business men of Sumter should be out in force, for marketing is a business man's problem, even more so than the farmers' problem. If the business men wish to build up a permanent prosperity for the city and county that makes the city possible and great.

There is a disposition in some quarters to criticize the State and national governments for giving special aid to farmers. These critics do not know the history of our government and it is only within the past few years that agriculture is being recognized by the government. And this recognition until very recently has all been to help the farmer to grow more that his produce may be cheaper to the consumer of the country. Legislation and business customs have been against agriculture to such an extent that the farms have lost many of their best farmers and all of their best laborers who have gone into the more favored occupations where wages are higher than farmers pay and opportunity greater. Men of vision see that these things must be corrected if this nation is to remain great, and reach to higher ideals or greatness. The bed rock of its prosperity, its stability, its true greatness is in the soil and quality of farmers who till the soil. No wonder then that statesmen are looking for ways and means to help the farmer—the wonder is that they did not see it long ago—but waited until farmers began to organize and cry out for justice.

Economical and scientific marketing is the most important part of the farmer's business—help him to find how to market profitably and you need never fear for lack of production. Let me repeat, Mr. Lever ought to have a message worth while for farmers and business men alike and I trust the court house will be full of men who will profit by his address.

E. W. Dabbs.

WEEK'S CROP REPORT.

Cool Weather Has Checked Growth of Cotton—Rains Help Truck.

Columbia, Oct. 4.—Early and intermediate cotton continues to open rapidly, and picking well advanced; the weather has been entirely too cold for the late crop, materially checking further development. No damage resulted from light frosts in the northwestern counties on the 29th. Corn is being gathered; the late crop is poor. Generous rains during the latter part of the week improved gardens, truck, pastures and the soil for seeding of late fall and winter truck and grain, but more moisture is needed in many localities. Pea-vine and hay harvests have continued, with satisfactory results.

London, Oct. 4.—Since the beginning of the Somme battle the British have taken 24,000 prisoners, engaged 38 German divisions, and forced 21 divisions to withdraw exhausted or shattered. Sir Douglas Haig announced today.

EXHIBITS PLANNED FOR FAIR.

DEPARTMENT HEADS ASSEMBLE IN COLUMBIA.

Many Prizes Offered—Corn and Pig Club Boys to Attend—Baker to Enter Huge Float for Clubs.

Columbia, Oct. 4.—Heads of various departments of the government agricultural interests of the State have been assembling in Columbia the last few days, organizing and directing plans for the State fair the last week in the month. L. L. Baker, of Bishopville, organizer and supervisor of boys' corn and pig clubs throughout the State, came to Columbia yesterday. C. A. McFadden, district agent of the farm demonstration forces, is also in Columbia, directing the arrangement of booths in the agricultural building at the fair grounds; J. L. Carbery of Clemson college has established headquarters here and is busily engaged in planning floor designs for the various departments for the agricultural parade on Wednesday of fair week. Miss Edith Parrott of Wintrop college has also been in Columbia in conference with representatives of the home demonstration workers, who are planning an exhibit of unusual scope and diversity this year.

Mr. Baker says he has this year 2,250 boys in the corn and pig clubs and that he is urging all who possibly can go to attend the State fair. He is now engaged in building a magnificent float, representative of the work of the two organizations, and he is anxious that the youths who compose this army of agricultural experts come to Columbia that week. Thirty-three counties have been organized for the pig clubs and 41 for the corn clubs.

The State fair is offering prizes to the amount of \$75 for the three classes of entries. Three first prizes of \$12 each and a similar number of second and third prizes of \$8 and \$5, respectively, are to be awarded. In addition to this amount The Duroc Bulletin of Chicago is offering a silver

ware association offers four prizes of \$12.50 each as follows:

For the best purebred Berkshire gilt under one year old; for the best purebred Berkshire brood sow one year old, accompanied by litter; for the best purebred Berkshire boar under one year old; and for the best purebred Berkshire boar over one year old. All entries in the boys' department will be free, but a fee will be collected when the exhibit is placed in competition with State entries. During the year there has been a great influx of purebred stock into South Carolina. Mr. Baker having placed orders for more than \$6,000 worth of purebred pigs for the members of the clubs.

Cash prizes to the amount of \$68 have been offered by the State fair officials to the corn club boys. In class A, the exhibits will be in 10 ear lots, together with a written account of the planting, cultivation and cost of crop. Three prizes will be awarded of \$15, \$10 and \$5, respectively.

Class B will be 10 ear exhibits, exclusive of the written report of the crop. The three prizes for this class will be \$10, \$8 and \$5. Class C will be for best single ear exhibits, and prizes will be \$7, \$5 and \$3 denominations.

The float which is being designed for the club boys emphasizes particularly the work in which the young men are engaged. Plans are to have this drawn by four large farm mules, with the boys marching in solid phalanx about the wagon.

GREAT DRIVE PLANNED.

Determined Effort to Be Made to Join Salonika Forces With Roumanians.

London, Oct. 5.—The allies are planning a great drive through Bulgaria to link the Russo-Roumanian forces with the allied army in Macedonia. Petrograd reports say that Grand Duke Nicholas is on the way to take command in Dobrudja, where severe fighting is in progress all along the line.

There was a hot artillery duel on the Somme front last night. London territorialists made a successful raid in Vimy area. A German attempt to raid British trenches in West Flanders was repulsed.

TO SPEAK IN CHICAGO.

President Wilson Will Address Naturalized Citizens.

Chicago, Oct. 4.—President Wilson will speak to ten thousand newly naturalized citizens and their wives under the auspices of the Naturalized Citizens' League on October 19.

ATTENDS COMMUNITY FAIR.

E. W. DABBS TELLS OF INTERESTING DEMONSTRATION AT DURANT SCHOOL.

Section is One Noted for Its Hospitality and Progressiveness of Its People—Praises Work of County Demonstration Agents.

Salem, Black River, Oct. 4.—A few days ago I had the good fortune to attend the first community fair held in this part of the State at the Durant school house in Clarendon county. The demonstration of Clarendon county has organized during the past two weeks.

This ante-bellum community of Plovidens, Durants, Montgomerys, McFaddens, Witherspoons and Nelsons was always noted for its warm-hearted simple hospitality, where guests were made to feel at home. Fox and deer hounds, guns and rods indicated sport and game in season. But withal it was a "live at home" community and Durant hams had a wide reputation that the present generation religiously maintains. That material things did not have the entire attention of these people is shown by several preachers, doctors and lawyers that attained distinction in other fields of labor who went out from this same one-room school house or its less pretentious fore-runners. One of them, a lady missionary, laid down her life on the altar of service among the Kentucky mountains just two years ago and another was ordained last July for the foreign field, Miss Reeves and her brother Henry Lide Reeves.

In such an atmosphere the historical would naturally have a place and there was a case filled with old family heirlooms and a part of the wall with faded baby dresses of several generations gone. In another corner of the room there was a fine display of field crops and vegetables, corn, sorghum, sugar cane, rice, potatoes, staple cotton, etc. Another corner held a large table of jellies preserves, canned goods, butter, bread, etc. One end was hung with needle work of exquisite design and workmanship.

In honor of the occasion both county demonstration agents, Mr. Clark and Miss Katherine Richardson, were there, and State Superintendent of Domestic Science Work, Miss Parrott, and Commissioner of Agriculture E. J. Watson, also Sumter county's efficient force of demonstration agents, J. Frank Williams, Miss Lemmon and Miss Pitts, all of whom made appropriate speeches.

I was struck with a remark of Miss Richardson in reply to the suggestion by the writer that he wanted to see this work reach the humblest home: "the prize winning canning club girl of the county last year lived in a two room cabin." She stated that last year there were eighty women enrolled in the eight domestic science clubs of the county. This year one hundred and eighty. This is the biggest work now going on in South Carolina for the building up of the country homes. County commissioners and legislators who cast slurs at it are not worthy to hold office. It is possible there may be inefficient demonstrators in the work. Men and women

who are in it only for the salary, if so, I do not know them. The ones I have met are capable and honestly striving to do good.

It is said by men and women who are in a position to know that there is more of this work being done in South Carolina than in any other State in proportion to size. This is a tribute to the Farmers' Union of this State which has not hesitated to speak out for what it believed to be for the good of the farmers and the farmers' homes to officials of every rank, from the president of the United States all along down the line to school trustees. These efforts have borne fruits not only in this State, but of nation-wide importance.

While many people were patting the farmers on the back and telling them what a fine price 15 cents and \$50.00 a ton are for cotton and cotton seed, this meeting of farmers dug down to the root of the matter and showed conclusively that present prices would be barely normal with a fifteen or sixteen million bale crop and that they are absurdly low for the present crop. It also warns the farmers that when this world war ends there will be a contraction of the currency with steadily falling prices until times are normal again. Every farmer should know these things and the wise ones will not only seek to get his just share of this vast volume of money that is being put in circulation, but will be laying aside some of it for the era of falling prices that is sure to follow. I want the Farmers' Union to get the credit for forcing this matter to the attention of the people.

E. W. Dabbs.

FACES CAR SHORTAGE.

Wilmington, N. C., Oct. 4.—President J. R. Kenly of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad announced tonight that his line had a shortage of about 8,000 cars and faces a serious situation.

He explained that the company has only 16,000 cars for use on foreign lines and all efforts to secure the return of more than half this number have been unavailing.

"The car situation has not shown any improvement within the last few weeks," Mr. Kenly said, "and is becoming more acute all the time." He added that the great demand for cars reflects in some measure the improved business conditions and foreshadows even better conditions in the future.

St. Louis, Oct. 5.—Three workmen were killed by an explosion at the Illinois Powder Company work at Grafton, Ill. The shock was felt forty miles.

FIRES DUE TO CARELESSNESS

CHIEF BEHRENS CITES SOME OF THE UNNECESSARY CAUSES OF DAMAGE BY FIRE.

Mr. Behrens Bespeaks Public Cooperation for Fire Prevention Day—National Per Capita Loss is \$5.

News and Courier.

Carelessness costs every man, woman and child in the United States \$5 a year was the remarkable statement made by Chief Louis Behrens, of the local fire department, yesterday in commenting on the appropriateness of "Fire Prevention Day" to be observed in this State and in twenty-eight other States in the Union October 9. The day has been set aside and is being held under the auspices of the Safety First Federation of America, Inc.

In speaking of the vast amount of fire waste in this country annually Chief Behrens gave out the following yesterday:

If you were to go to the bank and draw out all your savings in brand new bills, and then if you were to take the money and go and stand in the middle of the main street of this city and set fire to the bills, one at a time, you would find yourself in the hands of a policeman before you could say Jack Robinson.

There is no question about the ownership of the money. It is yours to do as you please with. You can spend it foolishly, you can give it away or you can invest it wisely. But if you burn it up, it is immediately assumed that you are crazy, or at least temporarily mentally unbalanced, and the public feels that it has a right to restrain you.

Despite this fact we go on serenely from year to year burning up our property without taking the slightest thought, apparently, of what we are doing. We erect costly structures and then sit down and neglect the first principle of fire prevention.

Gasoline, which is more deadly than dynamite, we handle as if it were so

around for children to play with. We hang our lace curtains close to the gas jet and then leave the window open when we go to bed so that the wind can blow the lace curtains into the flame.

Statistics for the year 1915 show better than words the reckless way in which the American people handle their property.

There were in 1915 no less than 3,152 individual fires, which in each instance caused an estimated property damage of more than \$10,000.

The total fire loss for the United States now averages more than \$250,000,000 a year. In 1915 it showed a slight drop, but there is no reason to believe that this is more than temporary, for the losses thus far in 1916 indicate that they will be far greater when the year is completed.

If this \$250,000,000 loss were all, it would certainly be enough, but when this is said only less than half the story is told. Besides the burning up of property, we spend every year in this country more than \$250,000,000 for the upkeep of fire departments, and there is additional waste in the increased size of insurance premiums made necessary by our own carelessness.

Figure it out for yourself. There are 100,000,000 people in the United States, roughly speaking. The annual fire tax is \$500,000,000.

That means that every man, woman and child spends \$5 a year more to live because of our national carelessness. If the average family consists of seven, it means that every family bears a burden of \$35 a year because of the fire waste.

Ignorance of the fire danger is stupendous. It is wilful ignorance, for in these days there is no reason why anyone should not know, and knowing there is no reason why he should not have at least rudimentary means of protecting himself.

Take your own case, for instance. Suppose a fire started in your home tonight while you were asleep. What means have you at hand to put the fire out? Suppose a fire started this minute in your home while you are away. How would it be extinguished without the help of the city fire department? Is there an extinguisher in your house? Is there even a fire pail or a bucket of sand? In ninety-nine cases out of every hundred it is safe to wager that there is not.

Even negative precautions are not taken. People permit rubbish to accumulate in piles in their attic, in closets, in their cellar.

A pile of papers under the stairs or in the closet is a first class fire risk. These places usually are dark, and when they are visited a match or candle is required. Carelessness fre-

BIG FIRE IN HARTSVILLE.

FLAMES BREAK IN RAILWAY YARD.

Long Staple Cotton Worth \$21,000 and Other Property Worthly Nearly as Much Destroyed.

Hartsville, Oct. 4.—A destructive fire, the loss amounting to approximately \$40,000, occurred here a few minutes past 2 o'clock this morning.

One of the cotton sheds of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad company and 154 bales of long staple cotton were destroyed as was a nearby warehouse with about \$2,000 worth of furniture belonging to the Modern Furniture company. Six box cars, the property of the railroad, three of which were loaded with cotton seed belonging to the Hartsville oil mill, were damaged and considerable damage was done to a cotton seed house filled with seed. In one of the box cars which was almost completely destroyed was a Jersey cow consigned to Mrs. Cox, the value being given as \$60. The animal was burned. Household furniture belonging to Dr. F. W. Ham was destroyed.

Computing at \$130 a bale the cotton—141 bales belonging to McKinnon & McNair, merchants here; eight bales belonging to C. R. Rouse, representing Ferguson & Co., two bales the property of Hasel & Clark, local buyers, and 12 bales belonging to McCabe & Co., the total, 163 bales—the cotton loss aggregates \$21,000. The seed loss was heavy but not complete. Most of the loss, it is understood, is covered by insurance, especially as relates to the cotton.

The Modern Furniture company had only small insurance. This is the most disastrous fire Hartsville has had in several years.

The fire company was promptly on the scene and did good work. A stiff wind was blowing but the rain and the efficient work of the firemen prevented much heavier loss.

IS VICTIM OF ACCIDENT.

Boggs Ingram, Owner of Plantation, Succumbs to Injury Inflicted by Gin.

Cheraw, Oct. 4.—Yesterday, shortly after 1 o'clock, Boggs Ingram met with a fatal accident. He was one of R. B. Laney's overseers on his plantation about five miles north of Cheraw, and was running a large self-feeding gin at the time. Some waste had gathered in some of the teeth, and he lifted the gin to pull it out, but unfortunately did not lift it high enough to put it in safety. He tripped and fell, getting his hand caught and his hand and arm were pulled in and cut into shreds up to the shoulder. He was immediately put in an automobile and rushed to Cheraw for surgical attention. Though having nearly bled to death by the time he got here, he pleaded so earnestly to be taken to a hospital, that, to give his mind rest, after the necessary treatment had been given to his arm he was taken towards Florence, but he died on the way. Mr. Ingram had lost his other arm when a very small boy through the accidental discharge of a gun in his own hands. He was about 32 years old and unmarried. He leaves his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ingram, who live near Cheraw, and a number of brothers and sisters, and a large and prominent family connection. The funeral service was held in the Cheraw Methodist church at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

quently results in the match being dropped or the candle being left behind when the visitor departs. If it is a closet, the door is shut and soon there is a bright little fire burning there.

If the proportion is one careful person to ninety-nine careless persons, what right have the ninety-nine to expect the other persons to help them pay their fire protection? Should not the careless person be made to pay for putting out the fire in his home? If the fire spreads from his home to his neighbor's should he not pay his neighbor for the loss, where the fire was due to his own carelessness.

The idea of personal responsibility is spreading fast. Pennsylvania has passed laws on the subject. The principle has been adopted in New York city, where the city has collected damages in several cases from owners of buildings that have caught fire. Owners have been compelled to pay the cost of extinguishing the fire, for the water, the men's salaries, and the rental for the apparatus.

One of these days we will wake up to the fact that fire is a needless waste. The people of Europe have long ago discovered it.